



Edisto Public Schools

Orangeburg School District Four ♦ P.O. Box 69 ♦ Cordova, SC 29039-0069

David L. Coleman
Superintendent

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

(803) 534-8081
Fax (803) 531-5614

April 8, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, SC 20554

RECEIVED
APR 16 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

On behalf of Orangeburg School District Four, I am requesting that the Federal Communications Commission approve regulations for the Telecommunications Act of 1996 as recommended by the Federal-State Joint Board.

The Internet has unbelievable potential for classroom use by students and teachers. Our district is working diligently to install local networks to provide computers in each classroom. To provide Internet access for all students, our school district will need new affordable access rates. I believe that the Universal Service Fund as proposed by the Federal-State Joint Board would provide this affordable access. I request that the Federal Communications Commission ratify the Joint Board's proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this issue which is very critical for our students.

Sincerely,

Philip Morris, Chair
Edisto Board of Trustees

PM:kmb

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REDDING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Academic Excellence Since 1873

BONNY VIEW SCHOOL

CYPRESS SCHOOL

JUNIPER ACADEMY

MANZANITA SCHOOL

SYCAMORE SCHOOL

TURTLE BAY SCHOOL

REDDING HOME STUDY

SEQUOIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chuck Gilfoy
Scott Gordon
Sue Morehouse
Peggy O'Lea
Jamieson Van Eaton



District Office:
5885 East Bonnyview Road
P.O. Box 992418
Redding, CA 96099-2418
(916) 225-0011 Phone
(916) 225-0015 Fax

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

06 96 45

MIKE MCLAUGHLIN, Ed.D.
Superintendent



April 7, 1997

Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I urge you and your FCC colleagues to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service to schools. I am the Superintendent of the Redding School District in Redding, California and I thank you for your interest in making sure that all schools will have affordable entry to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that the Redding School District will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet to provide student access to this valuable resource. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. Our students need your help in making sure these discounts are in place so they can enjoy the telecommunication services tomorrow.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Mike McLaughlin, Ed.D.
Superintendent

MM:pm

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APR 16 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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**MONMOUTH UNIT SCHOOL
DISTRICT NO. 38**

Monmouth, Illinois 61462

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Garfield Elementary School
Harding Elementary School
Lincoln Elementary School
Willits Elementary School
Central Jr. High School
Monmouth High School

325 South 11th Street
(309) 734-4712

April 10, 1997

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Superintendent
Donald R. Jenkins, Ph.D.

APR 16 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Re: CCDocket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As Superintendent of Monmouth Unit School District 38 in Monmouth, Illinois, I write to thank you for your dedication to ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. This integration of technology into the classroom is the payoff for students. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is also essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Unit District 38 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Donald R. Jenkins,
Superintendent
Monmouth Unit School District 38

DRJ/bja

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CE 96-45



ANGLETON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



JAMES H. SMITH, ED.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

School, Home, & Community

DIANE M. TAYLOR
CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR

April 11, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

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APR 16 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioner:

The Angleton Independent School District (AISD) in Angleton, Texas would like to encourage you as a Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission to support Proposed "E-rate" Telecommunications Discount Program.

The Angleton Independent School District applauds you and your fellow FCC Commissioners in tackling such a monumental task. We believe that the discounts that will be available to school districts from the proposal will be beneficial to our student population of 6,600. We are a small rural district in the southern coastal region of Texas. We have limited funds in the district to address the high recurring cost of telecommunications services. The \$2.25 billion a year will assist with telecommunication needs for all our campuses, and most importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for increased student performance at the state and national levels.

Our students would benefit greatly from deep discounts for telecommunication services. We have approximately 35% of our diverse student population that are economically disadvantaged. In a recent survey of our student body (Kindergarten through 12th grade), the results indicated that more than 80% did not have access to computer equipment or Internet services in the home environment. It is evident to our district, that in order for our students to gain technology and research skills and to compete in global economy, technology must be integrated into our curriculum and be available in the classrooms. Therefore, we urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to let you know the importance of "E-rate" discounts in the educational arena and to our district.

Sincerely,

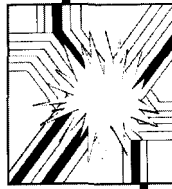
Diane M. Taylor
Academic Service Director

/jb:27197g

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
APR 16 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

I am a technical support specialist from the Center for Advanced Technologies, Altoona, Pennsylvania, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Center for Advanced Technologies, a nationally recognized technology education center, will then be better able to ensure that all of the classrooms through our district will be affordably connected to the Internet. It is important for our educators in Altoona to prepare our students to exit school with the technology skills they will need to survive in the workplace. It is vitally important for the economic development of our "rust belt" region to encourage the settlement of new business's in Altoona. This can only be accomplished with a technology enriched local workforce. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will help guarantee our regions growth.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Troy Anderson
Technical Support

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LA HARPE COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #335
404 West Main Street - R.R.#1 Box A
La Harpe, Illinois 61450
Phone: 217/659-7739 Fax: 217/659-7730
Steven Breckon, Superintendent

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 9, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 16 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a superintendent from La Harpe C.U.S.D. #335 in La Harpe, Illinois. I appreciate your dedication in ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

District #335 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Steven Breckon, Superintendent
La Harpe C.U.S.D. #335

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NEW CASTLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
420 Fern Street
New Castle, PA 16101-2640

Telephone: (412) 656-4771

Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 8, 1997

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APR 16 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I strongly urge you to support the recommendation of the FCC joint federal-state board to give schools access to telecommunication services at substantial discounts.

Districts in attempting to better prepare students for the workforce by providing computer technology are being hit with high telecommunications fees as well as the cost of computer equipment.

All students deserve the opportunity to the best education possible and should not be limited to the economies of their school district. Western Pennsylvania has been extremely hard hit with eroding tax base and loss of industry and jobs. Any additional taxes, to provide these opportunities, would create additional hardships upon the constituency.

Your support will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Marie L. Pisano

Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

cc: Mr. Joseph A. Martin, Jr., Superintendent
Mrs. Karen Humphrey, Board President

An Equal Opportunity Employer

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School District of Superior

Board of Education Building

3025 Tower Avenue
Superior, Wisconsin 54880
(715) 394-8700
FAX (715) 394-8708

April 9, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
202-418-2801
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As superintendent of the School District of Superior, I would like to thank you for your efforts to ensure that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Because of our location and the large number of families that qualify for free and reduced lunch programs, the Telecommunications Act is critical to our district. Without this support, children in our district will be severely limited of access to these resources. As with other public schools, we are very limited in funding for telecommunications equipment and personnel to support these systems.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Benjamin J. Kanninen, Superintendent

cc: Mike Willis, Director of Management Information Systems

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APR 16 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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Caroline County Public Schools

112 Market Street
Denton, Maryland 21629



R. ALLAN GORSUCH, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

April 10, 1997

TELEPHONE: 410-479-1460
FAX: 410-479-0108
HOME PAGE: cl.k12.md.us

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

On behalf of the seven least wealthy rural Maryland school systems who are members of the Rural Schools Education Fund, Inc. (R.S.E.F.), we respectfully ask you to support the Federal-State Joint Board decision with regard to the affordable access provisions for rural school districts and libraries.

The potential benefits of the Telecommunications Law of 1996 are substantial. We appreciate that local choice is permitted in the selection of technology and telecommunication services; that deep discounts to school districts, libraries and consortia that are located in remote, less wealthy areas are provided; and that flexibility necessary to create a service mix that addresses local needs is guaranteed.

Again, we emphatically state our support for rural access to technology for learners of all ages. We also strongly support the FCC Federal-State Joint Board recommendations for the Telecommunications Law that offers significant discounts to rural and underserved areas of America.

Sincerely,

R. Allan Gorsuch, Ed.D.
Chairman, R.S.E.F.

RAG:jhw

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cc: Senator Barbara A. Milkulksi
Representative Wayne T. Gilchrest
R.S.E.F. Members
Dr. Terrance A. Greenwood, Executive Director, Public School
Superintendents' Association of Maryland (PSSAM)

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



Abingdon

Community Unit School District No. 217

201 W. Lower Street
Abingdon, IL 61410
(309) 462-2301

April 9, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a superintendent from Abingdon Community Unit School District #217 in Abingdon, Illinois. I appreciate your dedication in ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

District #217 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you..

Sincerely,

Dale L. Miller, Superintendent
Abingdon C.U.S.D. #217

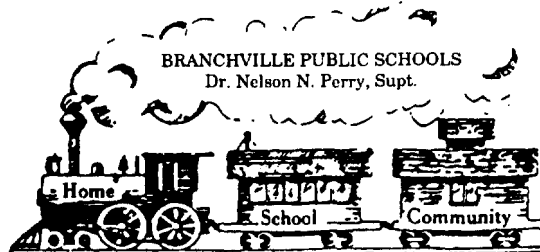
DLM/ma

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APR 16 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

ORANGEBURG COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 8

361 Barton Street
Branchville, South Carolina 29432-0248
Phone No. 274-8900 Fax No. 274-8645



"PULLING TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE IT WORK"

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a superintendent from Orangeburg School District Eight, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The money saved from the discount will enable us to use the additional resources to broaden our instructional offering and an innovative technology program.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nelson N. Perry

Nelson N. Perry, Ed.D.
District Superintendent

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APR 16 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Walnut Valley Unified School District

880 South Lemon Avenue, Walnut, California 91789 • (909) 595-1261 • Fax (909) 595-9626 • Ronald W. Hockwalt, Ed. D., Superintendent

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 6, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
APR 16 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Director of Registry

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The Board of Trustees and the Administration of the Walnut Valley Unified School District have been very supportive of technology and the access of students to the Information Superhighway.

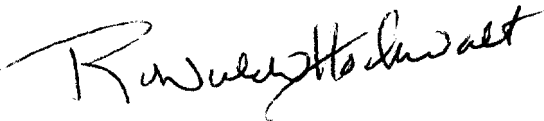
The Telecommunications Act and Federal-State Joint Board decision could guarantee that all school districts be given the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance learning activities.

Your inclusion of the internal classroom connections for discounts is vital, as well as consideration for the ongoing costs to school districts. We need deep discounts for telecommunication services or we cannot fully participate in the process.

Would you please support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service to schools in order to acquire equity and provide the students with the education that, we believe, is so very important in the United States?

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Most sincerely,



Ronald W. Hockwalt, Ed.D.
Superintendent



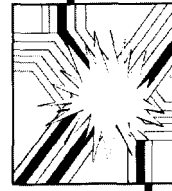
Marsha Sykes
Board of Trustees

RWH:do

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

I am Assistant to the Director for the Center for Advanced Technologies, Altoona, Pennsylvania, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Center for Advanced Technologies, a nationally recognized technology education center, will then be better able to ensure that all of the classrooms through our district will be affordably connected to the Internet. It is important for our educators in Altoona to prepare our students to exit school with the technology skills they will need to survive in the workplace. It is vitally important for the economic development of our "rust belt" region to encourage the settlement of new business's in Altoona. This can only be accomplished with a technology enriched local workforce. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will help guarantee our regions growth.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

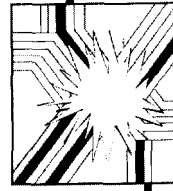
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gloria Sprankle
Assistant to the Director
Center for Advanced Technologies

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TECHNOLOGIES**



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APR 16 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

I am an instrtor from the Center for Advanced Technologies, Altoona, Pennsylvania, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Center for Advanced Technologies, a nationally recognized technology education center, will then be better able to ensure that all of the classrooms through our district will be affordably connected to the Internet. It is important for our educators in Altoona to prepare our students to exit school with the technology skills they will need to survive in the workplace. It is vitally important for the economic development of our "rust belt" region to encourage the settlement of new business's in Altoona. This can only be accomplished with a technology enriched local workforce. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will help guarantee our regions growth.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Irene Huschak
Instructor

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List ABCDE

JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
VANHOOSE EDUCATION CENTER

P.O. Box 34020
Louisville, Kentucky 40232-4020
(502) 485-3011

JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



April 9, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As Superintendent of the Jefferson County Public Schools in Louisville, Kentucky, I thank you for your efforts to assure that schools will have affordable access to robust telecommunications services. As access to the Internet and other distance-learning technologies become more and more important, demand for telecommunications services rises exponentially. At present, telecommunications rates for these services are not affordable to us.

The Telecommunications Act of February 1996, and the plan to discount services, will allow all schools the opportunity to connect to the Internet and other distance-learning capabilities. Without these deep discounts, many students will not have the access required to provide the education they need. Since a person's education is now an economic necessity, all students are affected throughout our nation. The \$2.25 billion per year will address the needs of all our schools; and more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom. Including internal classroom connections for discounts is crucial and essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

In the Jefferson County Public Schools, we plan to use these services to provide information access to the vast resources of the Internet in each classroom, and provide access to other distance-learning resources at universities, other schools, both within and outside of our district.

Significant discounts for telecommunications services are needed for all students this year. It is an investment which will pay huge dividends to our nation. I urge you to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for all schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephen Daeschner
Superintendent

SD/tb

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List ABCDE

EX PARTE (LATE FILE)

April 4, 1997

4004 NW 13 Place
Gainesville, FL 32605

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW Room 814
Washington D.C. 20554

APR 16 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hunt:

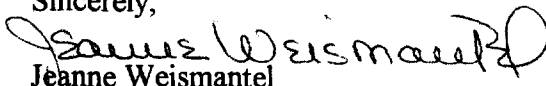
I am writing to request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) acts promptly and favorably upon the recommendations relating to reduced telecommunications rates to libraries made by the Joint Federal/State Board on Universal Service. As a former Trustee of the Alachua County Library District (ACLD) and a Board member of the Friends of the ACLD, I am aware of the importance of the telecommunications services offered by our libraries to the citizens of our area.

Usage of the library computers is constant and attendance at classes for the public related to accessing the Internet is high. For many citizens the ACLD libraries provide the only access they have to computers. For example, a patron explained that she could not understand what her children, who were receiving computer training in school, were doing. They encouraged her to try the library computerized services, and then she attended a class on the Freenet. She said she would never be able to afford a computer, but the library made it possible for her to enter the age of information. What is most important to her is the ability to keep up with her children.

The ACLD is committed to providing access to telecommunications for the public, but the anticipated costs are high due to changing technology, increased demand, and operating costs. In fact, without a reduction in rates, the ACLD expects to spend \$50,000 to meet utility expenses, a recurring budget item.

Discounted rates and services favorable to libraries by the FCC will help the ACLD and libraries throughout the nation to meet costs related to telecommunications, and so be able to continue providing services to patrons. I urge the FCC to take prompt action in this matter, and I thank you and the FCC for your attention to libraries and your work to assist patrons throughout our nation who need to be part of the telecommunications network.

Sincerely,


Jeanne Weismantel

Legislative chairperson, Friends of the ACLD

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Maureen Fitzpatrick
882 North Colony Road, #69
Meriden, CT 06450

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 4, 1997

Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, DC 20054

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a faculty and technology committee member from Regional School District #17, Haddam-Killingworth, in Connecticut, and would like to thank you and the FCC Commissioners for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. The plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Discounts provided through the proposed Joint Board's plan will enable our rural district of 5 schools to provide equal access to telecommunications in all schools and classrooms. We are extremely limited at this time due to telephone line charges being charged at commercial rates.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Maureen Fitzpatrick

Maureen Fitzpatrick

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APR 16 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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Kings County Office of Education

Gene Billingsley, Superintendent

Location
1144 W. Lacey Boulevard
Telephone (209) 584-1441

Mr. John Boogaard
Mr. Jim Focht

BOARD MEMBERS
Mrs. Larella Howe

Mr. Scott Clark
Mrs. Beth Rust

Mailing Address
Kings County Government Center
Hanford, CA 93230

April 9, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

APR 16 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of General Counsel

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

On behalf of the fourteen school districts in Kings County, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

In a continuing effort to provide the highest quality of Internet services to our students, our future, we intend to use the discounts in a fashion which will provide more free home dial-up for students; increase the speed of access; bring the other 50 percent of the schools within our county on-line; and provide discounts to districts currently on-line.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunication services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for Universal Service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gene Billingsley
Gene Billingsley,
Kings County Superintendent of Schools

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GB:cm



Carthage Community Unit School District No. 338

210 South Adams ☎ Carthage, Illinois 62321

Phone (217) 357-3922

Fax (217) 357-6793

Ralph E. Grimm,
Superintendent
Rodger Page
Jr-Sr High School
Dennis Castlebury,
Elementary Principal

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 11, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a superintendent from the Carthage Community Unit School District #338 in Carthage, Illinois. I appreciate your dedication in ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

District #338 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

If I may be of any service to you as you work with this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ralph Grimm".

Ralph Grimm
Superintendent

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P.O. BOX 23387 • GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54305

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES: 200 S. BROADWAY
GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN 54303

THOMAS M. JOYNT, Ph.D., SUPERINTENDENT
PHONE: (414) 448-2101

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 10, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

APR 16 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The Superintendent and Director of Technology for the Green Bay Area Public School District, would like to applaud your efforts to provide discounted educational rates for telecommunications services.

Heretofore, our attempts to provide Internet access for our schools has been severely restricted, due to budgetary constraints and high associated costs, to a variety of dial up methods to access a single 56 KB line from the District Office to our Internet provider. If more economical rate structures were available, we would like to implement leased lines to an Internet Service Provider from each high school and, possibly, from other distributed clusters of schools.

A recent letter to the editor in the Green Bay Press Gazette, Sunday, April 6, 1997 narrated the frustrations one of our high school students experienced trying to access the Internet due to our limited connectivity and the need to carefully allocate such an expensive resource.

Please continue your support to assure that the final regulations governing the "E-rate" telecommunications discounts actually facilitate our schools' ability to accomplish the goals intended without cumbersome restrictions being tagged on to appease various vested interests.

Sincerely,

DR. THOMAS M. JOYNT
Superintendent of Schools

GEORGE A. SMITH, PH. D.
Director of Technology

GAS/mwpg

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WILLIAMS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

P. O. Box 7
Eleventh Street
Williams, California 95987

Patricia Hopkins
Secondary
Principal
916 473-5369

Frank Cranley
Superintendent
916 473-2550

Francine Tyree
Elementary
Principal
916 473-2885

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 9, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a superintendent from Williams Unified School District. Your recent efforts to pass the Telecommunications Act is ensuring that all school districts have affordable access to the Internet.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision guarantees that all school districts will have the opportunity to the Internet. This will provide many distance-learning opportunities. The support will address the school classroom needs that will bring services to students and their classroom. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts will greatly assist the efforts of the school district to prepare the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students, the workforce of our future, deserve these discounts for telecommunications. I urge the FCC to fully support of the joint Board's discount plan for universal service schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Frank Cranley
Superintendent

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

CC96-45
Sheldon Steuer
1535 Union St
Schenectady, N.Y. 12309
April 8, 1997

Reed Hundt, Chmn.
Federal Communications Comm.
1919 M Street
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
APR 16 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Sir;

Call me simplistic if you will, but I believe there is an answer to the digital TV controversy that is fair to both sides. I believe that the broadcasters should pay for the new airwave space being allocated to digital TV. I also believe that the broadcasters are at least partly correct in claiming that the cost of the new channels might be prohibitive.

Why not require that the broadcasters buy the new channels through competitive bidding, but be given a moratorium on payment until after they switch to digital broadcasting? The subsequent sale of the current analog TV channels for non-broadcast uses should yield large sums which may well offset to a significant extent the debt accrued by the TV broadcasters in their purchase of the digital channels.

In this way, both sides will be satisfied, and the costs of this transition will be reduced to a manageable level!

Sincerely,

Sheldon Steuer

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Sandman Consolidated School
838 Seashore Road
Cape May, NJ. 08204
(609) 884-9410

Maud Abrams School
714 Town Bank Road
Cape May, NJ 08204
(609) 884-9420

Lower Township Elementary School District

834 Seashore Road
Cape May, N.J. 08204
609-884-9400
FAX 609-884-1821

Memorial School
2600 Bayshore Road
Villas, NJ 08251
(609) 884-9430

Carl Mitnick School
905 Seashore Road
Cape May, NJ 08204
(609) 884-9470

Cape May
County

April 8, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 16 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

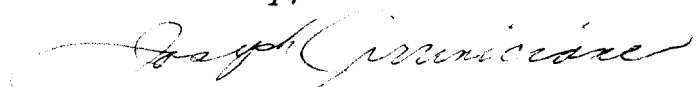
I would like to introduce myself as the Superintendent of the Lower Township Elementary Schools. My appreciation is extended to you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and the plan will provide services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is necessary for providing the knowledge to our future workforce.

Reduced rates will allow students and school professionals to connect more frequently to a variety of resources providing greater access to the world-wide community. At this time, schools are limited by the constraints of costly message units, particularly in utilizing multiple ISDN connections for quality Interactive Television. Affordable access will encourage libraries and other agencies to provide more extensive services to schools.

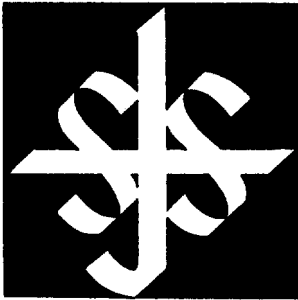
I urge the FCC give their full support to the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Sincerely,



Joseph Cirrinicione
Superintendent

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ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL
5411 SOUTH MAIN STREET
SYLVANIA, OHIO 43560
882-6670

April 9, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

RECEIVED

APR 16 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

CC: Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I write in strong support of affordable and meaningful discounts for all schools and libraries so that every school child and life-long learner can have access to the world of information technology. The passage of the Telecommunications Act last year mandates the development of a rate for education or an "e-rate" to secure affordable rates reflecting the financial capability of this community.

Integrating technology into the curriculum requires advanced telecommunications services and access for all classrooms. Without discounts on internal wiring and Internet access, these services may not be affordable for our school.

Catholic schools are excluded from most local/state funded initiatives for purchase of technology hardware and are significantly disadvantaged to begin with. National education surveys indicate that Catholic school classroom access to computers and connectivity is at least 50% behind that of its public school counterparts.

St. Joseph School is committed to advancing technology education and access. Our Technology Plan emphasizes the positive impact that technology has on learning. We believe it facilitates the development of skills that support life-long learning.

I ask you to ensure that telecommunications companies provide services to schools and libraries at significantly discounted rates. I also strongly urge you to act upon this historic opportunity to bring the world of information to every school child and life-long learner in America.

Sincerely,


Sally A. Koppinger
Principal

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SAK:md

Catholic Schools



Different By Design ©

Saint Anne School

3550 Trinity Drive
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA 31907-3298

April 8, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hunt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW - Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

APR 16 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hunt,

I am a principal at St. Anne School from the Diocese of Savannah, Georgia and would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly into the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital to this process. This plan is also essential in preparing our students for Workforce 2000.

Our school is working toward having a complete computer lab of 35 computers and twelve classrooms equipped with computers by the year 2000.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services to schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patricia Nobes

Patricia Nobes
Principal

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